

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels the original claims submitted with the application and also cancels the claims added via Preliminary Amendment B. This Preliminary Amendment submits 160 new claims, including 19 independent claims. The amendments to the claims made herein are for the purposes of clarifying the claimed matter and broadening the scope of the individually filed claims. The amendments to the claims made herein are not to be construed as narrowing the originally filed claims.

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be entered prior to consideration by the Examiner and issuance of a first action on the merits. Since the total number of claims, including independent claims is within the amount already paid for, no additional fee is enclosed. However, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct any additional fees required (except for payment of the issue fee) from or to credit any overpayment to Jenkins & Gilchrist, P.C. Deposit Account No. 10-0447, Order No. 47171-00298.

5/6/04

Date

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